

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 72 are currently pending in the application.

Claims 51 through 72 being newly added with this amendment.

This amendment is in response to the Office Action of July 21, 2004.

Preliminary Amendment

Applicants note the filing of a Preliminary Amendment on March 4, 2004, which filing was not acknowledged in the outstanding Office Action. Should the Preliminary Amendment have failed to have been entered in the Office file, Applicants will provide a true copy to the Examiner.

Double Patenting Rejection Based on U.S. Patent 6,340,637

Claims 1 through 50 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 28 of U.S. Patent 6,340,637. In order to avoid further expenses and time delay, Applicants elect to expedite the prosecution of the present application by filing a terminal disclaimer to obviate the double patenting rejections in compliance with 37 CFR §1.321 (b) and (c). Applicants' filing of the terminal disclaimer should not be construed as acquiescence in the Examiner's double patenting or obviousness-type double patenting rejections. Attached are the terminal disclaimer and accompanying fee.

Applicants submit that claims 1 through 72 are clearly allowable.

Applicants request the allowance of claims 1 through 72 and the case passed for issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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